AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2011 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 15, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 606

Introduced by Assembly Member Gatto (Coauthors: Assembly Members Garrick and Jeffries)

February 16, 2011

An act to add Section 1507 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to fish and wildlife resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 606, as amended, Gatto. Hunting and fishing.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Fish and Game to enter into contracts for fish and wildlife habitat preservation, restoration, and enhancement with public and private entities whenever the department finds that the contracts will assist in meeting the department's duty to preserve, protect, and restore fish and wildlife.

The Wildlife Conservation Law of 1947 specifically authorizes the Wildlife Conservation Board to authorize the Department of Fish and Game to acquire real property, including easements, for the benefit of wildlife.

This bill would require the department to permit wildlife-dependent recreational activities, including, but not limited to, hunting and fishing, on land subject to a wildlife conservation easement and on land subject to or a fish and wildlife habitat contract, except as specifically prohibited in the applicable easement or contract. easement, contract, or memorandum of understanding, or by other applicable law.

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Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1507 is added to the Fish and Game Code, 2 to read:

1507. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that lawful wildlife-dependent recreational activities, including, but not limited to, hunting and fishing, are compatible uses of lands subject to easements or contracts for wildlife purposes.

7 (b)

- 1507. (a) Except as specifically prohibited in the applicable easement, contract or contract, the contract, or memorandum of understanding, or by other applicable law, the department shall permit wildlife-dependent recreational activities, including, but not limited to, hunting and fishing, on either of the following:
- (1) Land subject to a wildlife conservation easement pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 1345) of Chapter 4.
- (2) Land subject to a contract for fish and wildlife habitat preservation, restoration, and enhancement pursuant to Section 1501.5.
- (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect an existing wildlife conservation easement, contract, or memorandum of understanding entered into before January 1, 2012.